

The Director

Central Intelligence Agency

Executive Registry

77-902/A

Washington, D.C. 20505

OLC 77-1326/a

Basic - 29 Mar.

Congress

4 MAY

Honorable Thomas J. Downey
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Downey:

I have received your letter of 29 March 1977 requesting information about the Institute of Cultural Affairs.

This Agency has no direct or indirect ties with the Institute of Cultural Affairs or any of the organizations mentioned in your letter. In addition, we have no record of any information about the Institute's activities in Venezuela.

Since the Institute is a domestically based organization, you may wish to contact the FBI for information.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER
Admiral, U. S. Navy

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THOMAS J. DOWNEY
2ND DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

March 29, 1977

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Stansfield Turner, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I am most interested in obtaining information about the Institute of Cultural Affairs, "an intra-global research, training, and demonstration group concerned with the human factor in world development".¹ Specifically, I would like to know if this organization has any direct or indirect ties with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs operates in Venezuela as a "program branch of the Ecumenical Institute which is registered in the State of Miranda as a not-for-profit corporation".² I am particularly interested in the Institute of Cultural Affairs's involvement in the Caño Negro Human Development Project in rural Venezuela. I am aware that the Institute conducted a Consultation in Caño Negro on January 9-15, 1977 as an "initial step in a comprehensive development demonstration project".³

I would like to receive this information as soon as possible. Please have your staff direct initial communications in this matter to the attention of Mr. Richard Di Salvo of my Washington office.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Downey
Member of Congress

TJD/rd

1. Consultation Summary Statement: Caño Negro Human Development Project, January, 1977, The Institute of Cultural Affairs, p. 3.

2. Ibid., p. 3.

3. Ibid., p. 1.